

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 6, line 19 to read as follows:

Referring now to Fig. 3, an isolation architecture in accordance with the present invention is shown in which a VMS 30 is coupled to a local MCU32 that is coupled to an optical trigger circuit 34, wherein each of these components is located within a relatively benign environment. An optical fiber ~~[[36]]~~ 35 is provide to couple the optical trigger circuit 34 to a power stage drive circuit 36 which is used to control DC motor 38. In this architecture, the only components with the harsh environment are the power stage 36 and the motor 38. The optical trigger circuit 34 operates a trigger power level that is sufficient to directly trigger the power stage 36.